

2 JUN 2006

AUTOMOBILE FOLDABLE CARGO LINER

[0001] This application claims the benefit of International Application Number PCT/GB2004/005248, which was published in English on July 7, 2005.

Field of the Invention

[0002] This invention relates to vehicle load area protectors, and especially but not exclusively to liners for protecting the load area of a car or van.

Background to the Invention

[0003] A vehicle load area, such as the cargo area of a van or boot of a car, can be damaged by items placed into the area. For example, heavy or bulky items, or items having sharp or protruding parts, may scratch or dent the interior of the area or the threshold to the load area. Damp or wet items placed into the load area may also damage the load area floor or any lining on the floor, such as a carpet or mat for example. Other sources of damage to a load area, and threshold thereto, include the entry and exit of persons or animals to and from the vehicle. Animals such as dogs can especially damage the threshold of the vehicle by scratching the surfaces of the threshold with their claws, and may further damage and dirty the interior of the load area once on board the vehicle.

[0004] Attempts have been made to prevent damage to the interior of load areas of vehicles by placing sheets of strong material on the floor of the load area, in order to prevent scratching, denting or other damage to the floor of the load area. Although such sheets can be effective in protecting the